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P A T E N T

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:	JAMES J. PAGLIUCA et al.	Confirmation No.:	8425
Serial No.:	10/665,754	Examiner:	VICTOR X. NGUYEN
Filed:	SEPTEMBER 19, 2003	Group Art Unit:	3734
Docket No.:	1291.1139101	Customer No.:	33469
Title:	SURGICAL TOOL FOR USE IN EXPANDING A CANNULAE		

**RESPONSE AFTER FINAL**

MAIL STOP: AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION:**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on this 18th day of December 2008.

By   
Kathleen L. Bockley

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action of the Examiner mailed October 29, 2008, with a shortened statutory period set to expire on January 29, 2009.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**The Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.